

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 (c)
U.S. Patent Appln. S.N.: 10/779,880
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q79957

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 4-9 are all the claims pending in the application. Of these claims, claims 1, 4, 6 and 7 have been amended. Claims 12 and 13 have been added.

In view of the of the comments contained in the Advisory Action, Applicants have amended claim 1 to more specifically recite the invention. More specifically, as amended, claim 1 recites that the resilient contact piece portion includes an intermediate portion (56b) which is substantially parallel to the bottom wall and at a predetermined clearance so that the resilient contact piece portion extends substantially parallel to an insertion direction of the male terminal, except for the first curved portion (56a). It is believed that, as amended, the claims patentably distinguish over Sato, et al. Indeed, as previously argued, at least the distal ends of the resilient contact tongue 3c and resilient tongue piece 30 in Figures 8C and 6 of Sato, et al., respectively, are inclined with respect to the terminal insertion direction. The same is true with respect to Shimizu's elastic contact portion 14. Support for the amendment to claim 1 is provided on page 7, last paragraph of the specification.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the claims pending in the application are allowable. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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